

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02122 141848Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 CU-02 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 EB-08 TRSE-00 /071 W
-----141851Z 037085 /41

P R 141710Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4166
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2122

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, UR, US
SUBJECT: TASS CONTINUES ATTACK ON VOA AND USIA

REF: (A) MOSCOW 2004, (B) MOSCOW 2042, (C) MOSCOW 2043 EXDIS

1. HARD ON THE HEELS OF GONCHAROV'S ATTACK ON VOA CARRIED BY
TASS FEBRUARY 10 AND REPORTED REFTEL A, THERE APPEARED
FEBRUARY 11 ANOTHER (UNSIGNED) COMMENTARY ON THE TASS WIRE
DATELINED WASHINGTON AND AGAIN SINGLING OUT VOA, AND THIS
TIME USIA AS WELL, FOR PARTICULAR VILLIFICATION.

2. ENTITLED "CONFRONTATION IN THE USA", THE FEBRUARY 11
ITEM OSTENSIBLY CONCERNS ITSELF WITH "A SHARP CONFRONTATION"
IN THE UNITED STATES BETWEEN "THE FORCES OF REACTION AND
MILITARISM" ON ONE SIDE AND "BROAD PUBLIC FORCES WHICH
REALIZE HOW SENSELESS AND DANGEROUS IS THE ARMS RACE" ON
THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS. AS SUCH, THIS WOULD BE JUST
ANOTHER PIECE OF TASS BOILERPLATE ON THE "MYTH OF THE SOVIET
THREAT" WERE IT NOT FOR ITS PARTICULAR FOCUS ON USIA AND VOA.

3. IN SETTING THE STAGE FOR ITS EVENTUAL PRESENTATION OF THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 02122 141848Z

VIEW OF PARTICIPANTS IN A WASHINGTON SEMINAR SPONSORED BY A
SO-CALLED "COALITION FOR A NEW FOREIGN POLICY," THE TASS
PIECE CLAIMS THAT ENEMIES OF DETENTE IN THE WEST HAVE BEEN
AND STILL ARE CARRYING ON "A FIERCE POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL
STRUGGLE AGAINST THE BASIC PROPOSITIONS AND THE FUNDAMENTALS
OF THE (HELSINKI) FINAL ACT." NOT ONLY FOR EXPORT, THIS
CAMPAIGN IS ALLEGEDLY ALSO DIRECTED AGAINST AMERICANS

THEMSELVES, "POISONING THEIR MINDS FROM YEAR TO YEAR WITH ANTO-SOVIET PROPAGANDA."

4. TO CARRY THIS "RABID ANTI-SOVIET AND ANTI-COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN ABROAD," THESE ENEMIES OF DETENTE MAKE USE OF "STATE BODIES, SUCH AS THE U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY (USIA), ACTING AS A COORDINATING CENTER OF ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA, AND THE AGENCY-DIRECTED 'VOICE OF AMERICA'," AS WELL AS THE EXPECTED PENTAGON AND CIA "MISINFORMATION SERVICES" AND PROFESSIONAL ANTI-SOVIETISTS."

5. WITH THAT OFF ITS CHEST, TASS DEVOTES MUCH OF THE REMAINDER OF THE STORY TO THE COALITION FOR A NEW FOREIGN POLICY" CONFERENCE, CITING "PROFESSOR J. STONE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN SCIENTISTS FEDERATION" (SIC), DR. A. M. COX OF THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION, AND PROFESSOR E. REVENAL OF JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY. ALL, OF COURSE, ARE QUOTED IN PITHY STATEMENTS ABOUT THE NON-EXISTENCE OF ANY SOVIET THREAT AND NEEDLESS AMERICAN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. FINALLY, THE PIECE REFERS TO A "PEOPLES ACTION GROUP" PETITION AGAINST FUNDING THE B-1 BOMBER.

6. COMMENT: COUPLED WITH THE FEBRUARY 10 TASS COMMENTARY, THIS LATEST CRITICISM OF USIA-CUM-VOA PROVIDES SUPPORTING FIRE FOR THE MAIN ATTACK LAUNCHED IN THE FEBRUARY 12 ISSUE OF PRAVDA (REPORTED RES B AND C). ALTHOUGH HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT MENTIONED IN THE FEBRUARY 11 TASS PIECE, THE FAMILIAR CHARGES OF ANTI-SOVIETISM AND "ANTI-HELSINKI-ISM" ARE. VOA, WHICH ON FEBRUARY 10 WAS "HOSTILE" AND "INTERFER(ING) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 02122 141848Z

IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS" OF THE USSR, BY FEBRUARY 11 HAD BECOME AN ARM OF THE "COORDINATING CENTER OF ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA." THAT "CENTER", USIA, WAS SINGLED OUT FOR THE FIRST DIRECT ATTACK IN THE PAST SEVERL YEARS - VOA OCCASIONALLY COMING IN FOR CRITICISM BUT NOT AS A COMPONENT OF USIA. THE AGENCY, AFTER RECENT FAVORABLE MENTION IN SOVIET PRESS TREATMENT OF EXHIBITS AND OTHER CULTURAL EXCHANGES, HAS AT LEAST TEMPORARILY SLIPPED BACK INTO THE TASS "BAD GUY" COLUMN. AS WITH THE FEBRUARY 10 TASS ARTICLE, SINGLING OUT OF VOA AND USIA THIS TIME AROUND CAN ONLY BE SEEN AS AN EXPRESSION OF PARTICULAR SOVIET DISPLEASURE OVER VOICE AND USIA (AND OVERALL USG) TREATMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES IN THE U.S.-SOVIET BILATERAL CONTEXT.
TOON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW02122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770052-0417
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770244/aaaabndv.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a25ccec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 2004, 77 MOSCOW 2042, 77 MOSCOW 2043
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3328496
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TASS CONTINUES ATTACK ON VOA AND USIA
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, CSCE, VOA, USIA
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a25ccec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009